

NPL Site Narrative for Wheeler Pit

WHEELER PIT Janesville, Wisconsin

Federal Register Notice: [September 21, 1984](#)

Conditions at listing (September 1983): The Wheeler Pit covers 4 acres near Janesville, Wisconsin. The unlined gravel pit, owned by the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific Railroad, is about 30 feet above ground water in 200 feet of permeable soils. Wastes were accepted from 1956 until 1974. From 1960 to 1974, General Motors (GM) used the site to dispose of paint sludges and fly ash from its Janesville auto assembly plant. GM indicates that about 22.3 million gallons of organic and inorganic sludges containing solvents and heavy metals were disposed of in the gravel pit. It was closed, covered, regraded, and seeded in 1975.

Sampling by GM established that ground water under the site is contaminated with arsenic, chromium, zinc, and barium. Six private and industrial wells for drinking water in the area are contaminated.

Status (June 1984): EPA is considering various alternatives for the site.

[The description of the site (release) is based on information available at the time the site was evaluated with the HRS. The description may change as additional information is gathered on the sources and extent of contamination. See [56 FR 5600](#),

February 11, 1991, or subsequent FR notices.]